THE EDMONDO SITE (18AN1058), LONDON TOWN, MARYLAND

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Introduction

Forests, fields, and plantations dominated the landscape of coastal Maryland during the Colonial period. Few towns ever developed and fewer still survived (Figure 1). Among the success stories, London Town in Anne Arundel County figures prominently with its dozen-and-a-half named streets, taverns, shops, warehouses, dwellings, and boatyards. Ancient records and archeological sites hold the secrets to the formation of this town site, its growth, and its eventual decline. Results from recent archeological research, however, do not fit with current interpretations of the archival record. Land records and a visitor's account at the end of the Revolutionary War suggest depopulation of London and consolidation of the more than one hundred lots into three farms. Archeological research, on the other hand, has uncovered artifacts and features dating to the late 18th and early 19th centuries at all but one of the 12 registered sites on the peninsula (Figure 2). Excavations by *The Lost Towns of Anne Arundel Project* at the Edmondo site have yielded some of the clearest evidence of the continued occupation of London into the Federal and Early Republic periods.

Under the direction of county archeologist Al Luckenbach, *The Lost Towns of Anne Arundel Project* involves the public in the search for, and exploration of, colonial town sites throughout Anne Arundel County. Since 1995, *The Lost Towns Project* has worked at London on the banks of the South River, excavating archeological sites at the county-owned London Town Park and on privately-owned house lots. The Edmondo site lies outside of the park, but within the 100-acre town. Maryland's General Assembly founded London in 1683 through the second of what would become a series of town, port, and trade acts. Unlike most of the sites designated by those acts for town development (Thomas 1994), London Town became an important, active commercial hub and a bustling seaport. Precisely when the town began its decline remains uncertain, but the drop in lot purchases during the 1740s—coincident with the selection of a point further upriver for a tobacco inspection warehouse—suggests decline throughout the latter half of the 18th century (Kerns 1999). Although Anne Arundel County's courthouse stood at London from 1684 until Governor Francis Nicholson moved it to the new colonial capital of Annapolis in 1695 (Lindauer 1997), the town served primarily as a commercial port, rather than as an important governmental center.

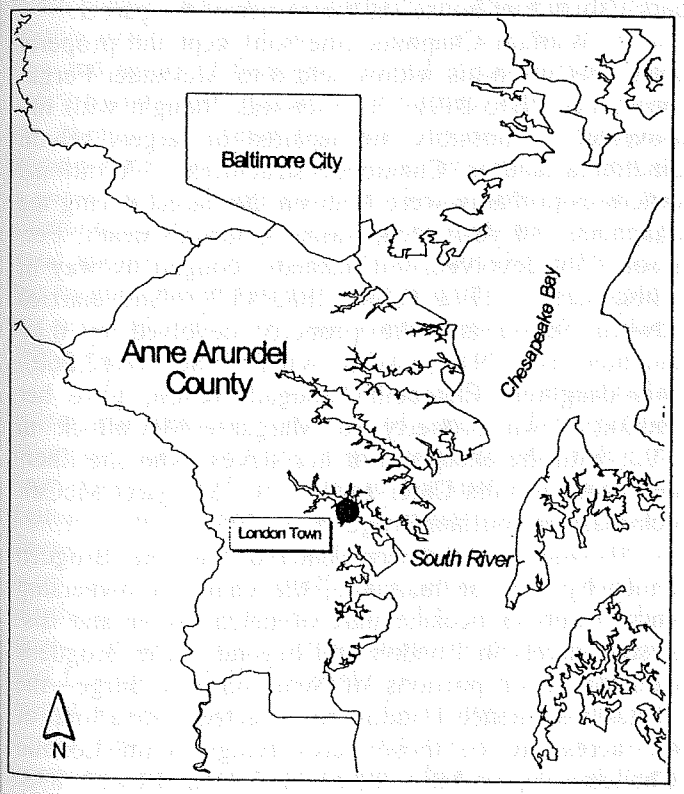

FIGURE 1. Location of London Town, Maryland.

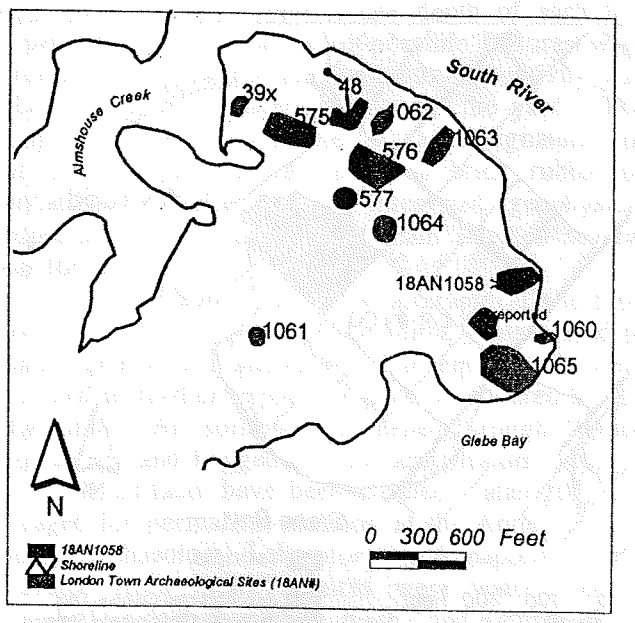

FIGURE 2. London Town archeological sites.

Edmondo Site: Overview

The Lost Towns team began investigation of the Edmondo site in August of 1996, when property owners Betty and Peter Edmondo informed Dr. Luckenbach that an overturned tree exposed brickwork in their backyard, adjacent to a bluff overlooking the South River. Elizabeth Edmondo also reported an open cellar hole that remained visible until the family filled it with clay in the 1960s. A one-day investigation of the site led to a long term study of the property's historic and archeological relationship to the town of London—a study involving the entire Lost Towns staff and many volunteers. The project team used conventional archival and archeological techniques, as well as geophysical survey technologies, in the Edmondo site investigation, the results of which this paper describes.

The Edmondo site occupies town Lots 33 and 100 (Anthony Lindauer, personal communication 1998; see Figure 3). Lot 33 has been the subject of the project team's investigation. The parcel is a relatively flat, grassy lawn, with a sparse stand of trees to the south. Lot 33 is nearly ideal for conventional archeological study and geophysical prospecting, as the property is open and free of electrical and other utility lines (Cox 1998).

Thomas Linthicum purchased Lot 33, situated on Shipping Street, in 1684, whereupon he built a dwelling house (Anne Arundel County Patents [AACP] Liber WT2:56 [1703]). David Macklefish purchased "Linthicum's Lott" in 1702, "with all dwelling houses," excepting a 100 by 100-foot portion east of an existing house. The document suggests that the Linthicum family retained the parcel because it contained their house. The deed indicates that the "Land lying to the Westward of a house standing on the said land formerly built by Thomas Linthicum" (Liber WT#2:57) is the portion exempted from the sale to Macklefish.

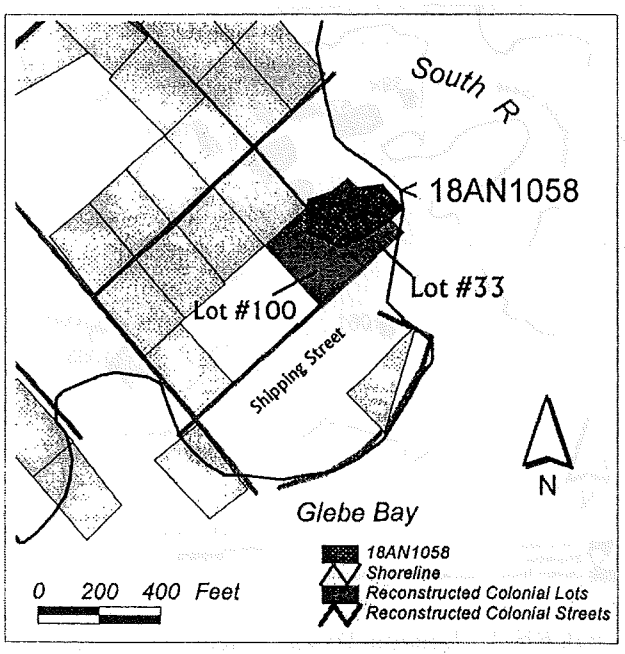

FIGURE 3. Reconstructed colonial Lots 33 and 100 with the location of 18AN1058.

A 1718 deed indicates that Hezekiah Linthicum sold the exempted lot to Samuel Chambers, who built a forty-foot house in one corner (AA Co Deeds Liber IB2 Folio 487). In 1724, William Chapman purchased the remainder of Lot 33 from David Macklefish, reconsolidating the lot to its original one-acre configuration (Liber SY #1:58). By his 1727 will, Chapman bequeathed his son the exempted parcel (Anne Arundel County Wills [AACW]). It is unclear when Samuel Chambers lost ownership of the exempted lot or if the 1718 transaction between Hezekiah Linthicum and Chambers was ever completed. Archival evidence suggests at least two dwellings on the exempted parcel: Linthicum's original 1684 dwelling and Samuel Chambers' "forty foot house" at the corner of the parcel.

William Chapman (the son) kept the property until 1764 when his widow sold it to Alexander Ferguson (Liber BB#3:219). The lot was "bought with improvements," possibly the repaired or largely rebuilt Linthicum and/or Chambers structures. Additional structures probably were built on the parcel during the Chapmans' 40-year occupation. Upon his death, Ferguson's lot devolved to Elizabeth Scougall by way of public sale in 1772 (Liber IB#3:457). She married Edward Sefton and the property devolved to their daughter by 1791 (AACO Wills, Liber JG#2:260). This daughter, Elizabeth Scougall Sefton, gave her London Town property to Margaret McCullock in 1792, with the exception of her slaves, who she liberated (AACo Wills Liber Jg#1:317). Margaret McCullock married William Brogden in 1795.

Once the property entered into the Brogden family by way of marriage, the chain of ownership blurs. Lot 33 became part of much larger and dispersed parcels in London and beyond. The Brogdens acquired major portions of Scornton and Burge—the plantations whence London was erected—for a total of 460 acres, 40 of those acres lying within London (Chancery Papers MSA S 512-11833 Md HR #17, 898-12011-1/4 1/39/04/89). The Brodgens played a significant role in the reconsolidation of London lots following the decline of the town. In 1833, Margaret Brogden sold about 460 acres to William Stewart

(AACO Land Records Liber WSG#18).

Colonial London Town lots were consolidated into much larger parcels during the late 18th and early 19th century. This pattern is evident in both the chain of title and in the archeological record at 18AN1058.

Methods

Examination of that portion of the lawn in which Betty Edmondo reported the location of a cellar hole revealed considerable topographic variation indicative of one or more masonry structures. Excavation of a 5 by 5-foot unit in the vicinity of a recent tree fall exposed an articulated brick wall, possibly a chimney base, and a builder's trench excavated through intact oyster shell midden. The recovery of white salt-glazed stoneware and Chinese export porcelain from this unit provided good evidence of 18th century occupation. These finds prompted the Lost Towns Project to begin archeological testing in the summer of 1997, including geophysical prospecting.

The Lost Towns Project uses a cesium magnetometer and ground-penetrating radar to investigate archeological sites identified through more conventional means, allowing cost-effective, efficient, non-intrusive exploration of site boundaries and the distribution and nature of features. Buried metal artifacts, masonry foundations, disturbed or burned soils, and natural phenomena create magnetic anomalies. Magnetometers measure the relative magnetic composition of a survey area along transects (5-foot intervals at the Edmondo site), providing a map of high and low magnetic anomalies. A computer program (Surfer™) uses the magnetometer data to create a contour map depicting areas of high, low, and ambient magnetism (Clark 1990; Cox 1998).

Ground-penetrating radar, or GPR, emits radar pulses and measures their rate of return. The operator drags the antennae along a grid transect (450-MHz, 5-foot intervals). The antennae transmit the data to a laptop computer. Special computer software transforms the rate of return data into a picture or sectional view of the soils beneath the antennae to varying depths depending on the nature of the soil and the frequency at which the machine emits the pulses (Conyers and Goodman 1997). Depths of 4 to 7 feet were attained at the Edmondo site. Taken together, the sectional views from each transect can be plotted on a planview map for interpretation. These data, and those collected through the application of conventional archeological techniques, are integrated through computerized mapping, or a geographic information system (Cox et al. 1997).

Staff and volunteers established a grid system, eoriented north by west, across the one-acre parcel with a theodolite and tapes. A Trimble Pro-XL global positioning system (GPS) with real-time differential recorded the grid location and existing conditions for computerized mapping and integration into the overall map of London.

After mapping the site with the GPS, more than one acre of the site was systematically surveyed with ground-penetrating radar and magnetometry. The magnetometer survey, the quicker of the two, was conducted first. The speed of acquisition of magnetometer data allowed for a larger portion of the yard to be surveyed. The magnetometer results focused the radar survey—which is much slower, but more informative—identifying possible features for higher resolution, but still non-intrusive, study.

The magnetic data illustrate general site structure and several isolated magnetic anomalies (Figure 4). Magnetism ranged from 52,500 to 55,500 gammas, the most anomalous magnetic activity concentrated in the northeast quarter of the survey area. The northeastern anomalies exhibited low level magnetism typical of disturbed soils or fired clays. The center of the survey area is relatively quiet. The very concentrated and isolated 'hits' to the southwest probably represent isolated near-surface iron debris. These anomalies have been compared to the radar results.

The radar anomalies were noted on a planview map of the site in AutoCAD, with an indication of size, shape, intensity, and approximate depth of each hit. As patterns emerged, areas of possible features were identified. As with the magnetic survey, activity was highest in the northeastern portion of the yard. The strong hits were comparable to radar signatures of near-surface solid features, such as brick rubble or foundations. Based on the integrated geophysical prospecting results, the project team selected several areas for excavation.

The site was excavated stratigraphically in 5 by 5-foot squares, with each of the initial units placed to examine geophysical anomalies. Subsequent units were excavated to further explore features uncovered by the initial units. All soils were screened through ¼-inch mesh screen and bagged by unit and stratum designation. All artifacts have been cleaned, cataloged, and packaged for permanent curation at the Anne Arundel County Archaeology Laboratory in Annapolis. Soils excavated from intact features were water-screened through 1/16-inch hardware mesh, and samples have been retained for flotation. Scaled planviews and sections have been prepared, and provenience cards filled out, for each unit. All notes, drawings, and pho-

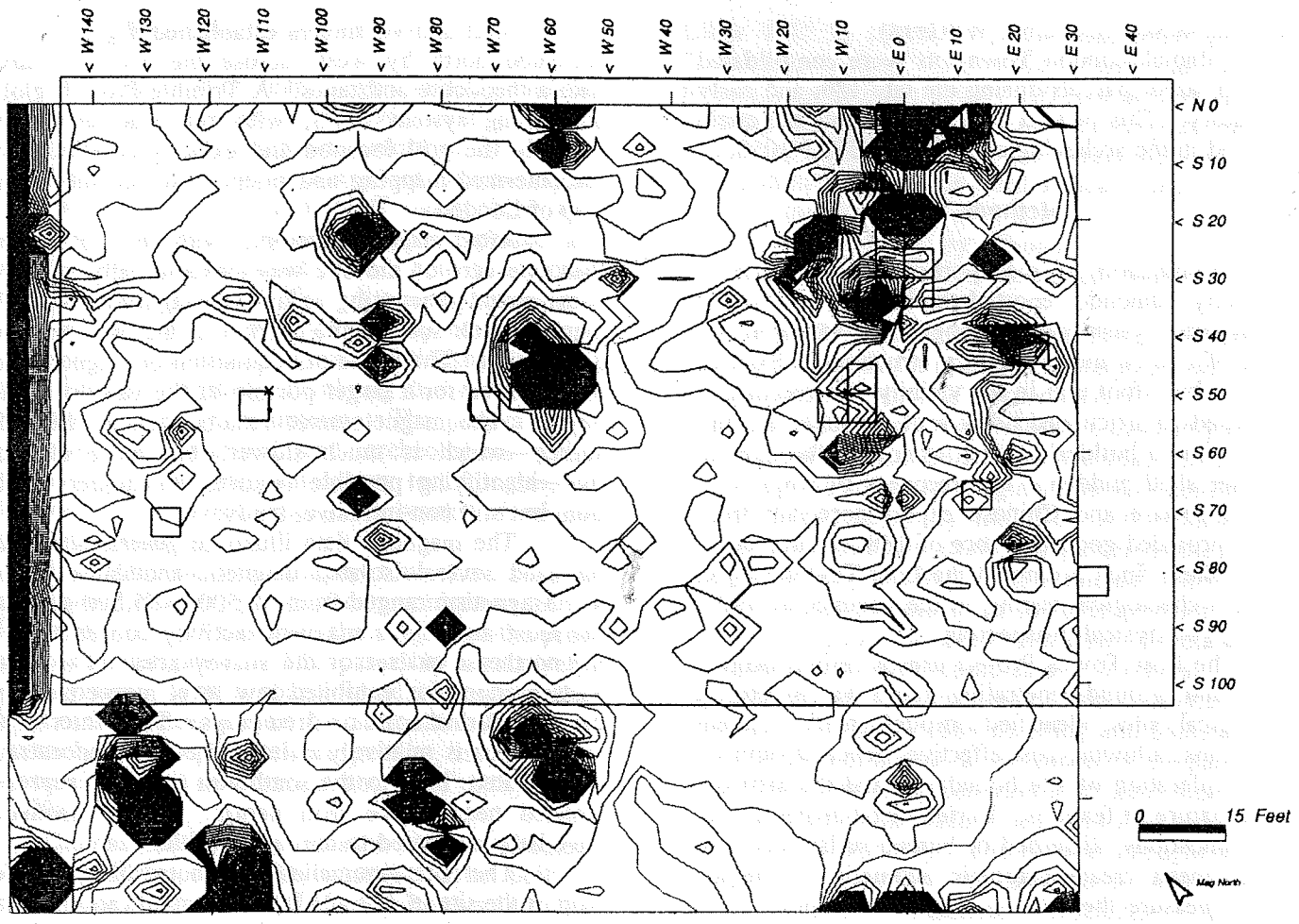

FIGURE 4. Results of cesium magnetometer survey at 18AN1058.

tographs are curated at the Lost Towns, Anne Arundel County Archaeological Lab.

Results

As noted above, geophysical survey revealed concentrations of anomalous readings in the northeastern quadrant of the survey area, with isolated anomalies sprinkled elsewhere throughout the site. Project staff and volunteers excavated 16 units, revealing a varied stratigraphy across the site. The sandy subsoil was generally encountered 1.5 to 2 feet below grade, and was overlain by clay fill and sandy loam, much of which had been deposited or disturbed when the Flood family filled the cellar hole and landscaped the area in the late 1960s. Uncovered features include a brick-lined and floored cellar, brick footers representing a substantial building, an exterior brick pavement, stone foundations, and oyster shell middens. The features represent at least five periods of occupation:

1) a Late Woodland oyster processing camp;
2) a late 17th/early 18th century occupation, possibly that of Thomas Linthicum, in the southeastern quadrant of the study area and extending into the next houselot;
3) 18th century occupation that probably represents occupation by the Chapmans, from 1724 until 1764, and by Elizabeth Sefton Scougall, from 1772 until 1792;
4) late 18th and early 19th century occupation by Mary McCullogh Brogden and her husband (1792 until at least 1833); and
5) the Fleet/Flood/Edmondo family ownership beginning in the mid-20th century.

The Lost Towns archeological lab washed, labeled, and stored recovered artifacts according to Maryland State Guidelines (Shaffer and Cole 1994). Preliminary analyses, including contour maps, were undertaken to indicate patterns of artifact distributions across the site. All artifacts are stored at the Lost

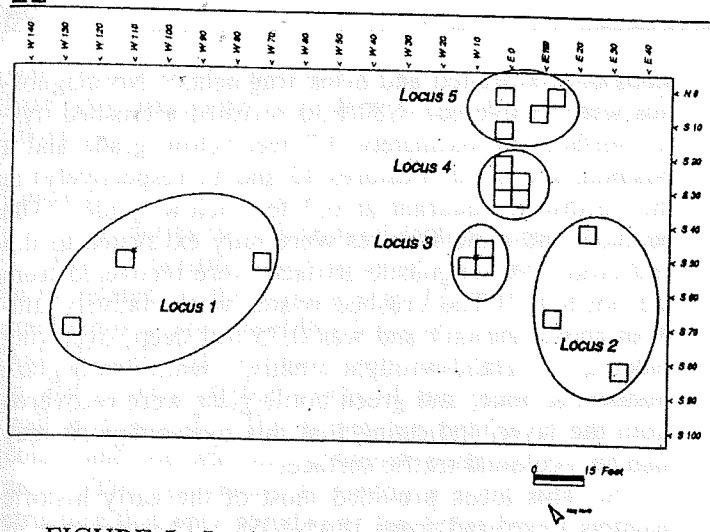

FIGURE 5. Loci and excavation unit locations.

Towns, Anne Arundel County Archaeological Lab.

Site activity areas have been identified through consideration of features and soils across the site and with regard for several categories of artifact types. Based upon the architectural components and building sequence that will be explained below, the site has been divided into five loci, or groups of units, for analytical purposes. The first locus encompasses the three westernmost units; Locus 2 includes three southwestern units; Locus 3 comprises the brick-lined cellar hole and surrounding two unit; Locus 4 includes the four units with the 'connector' foundation; and Locus 5 includes the five northernmost units (Figure 5). This classification allows for a better understanding of the relationships between, and use of, the three building components, defined here as Loci 3, 4, and 5 (Figure 6).

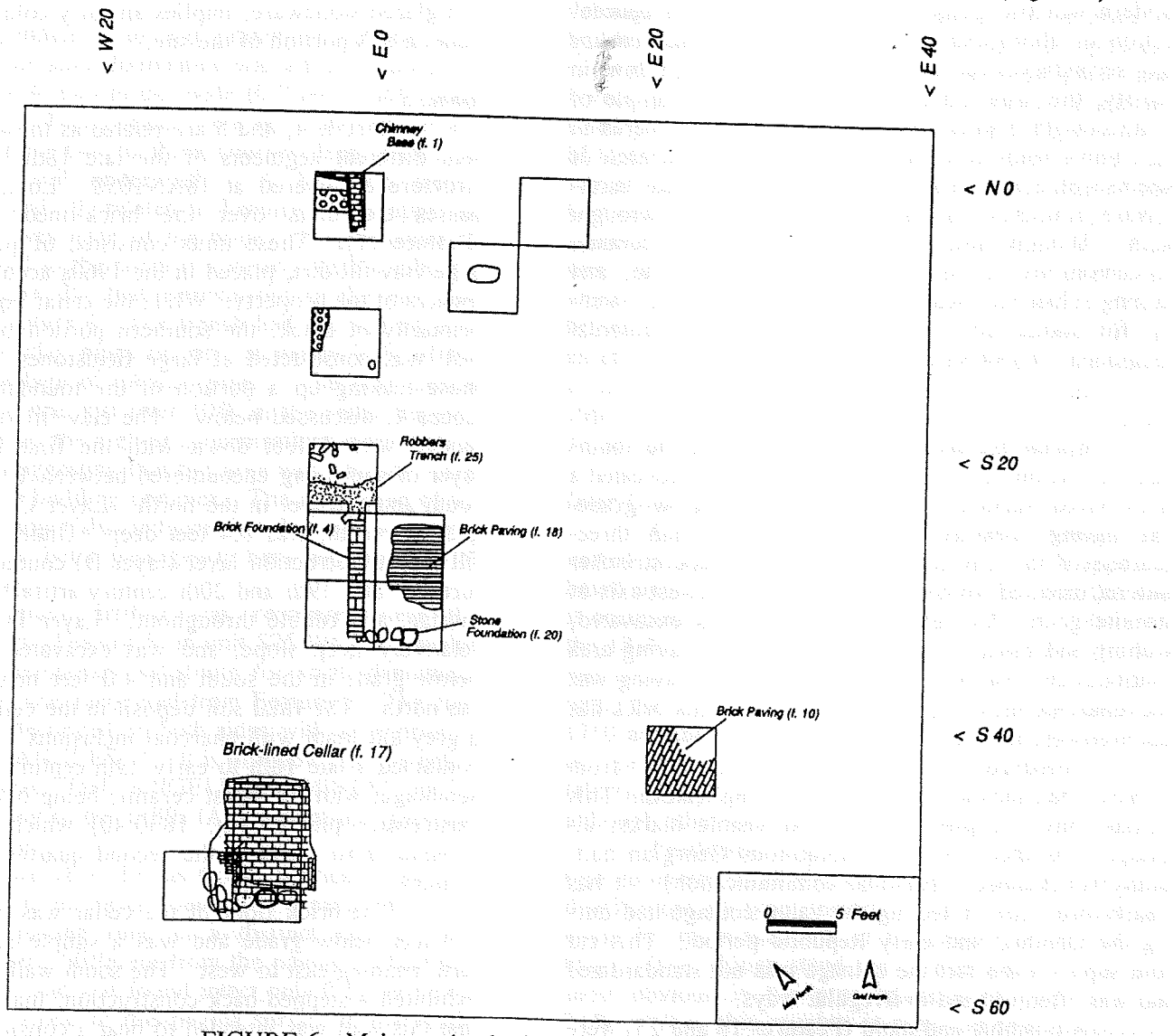

FIGURE 6. Major archeological features at 18AN1058.

Feature and Soils Descriptions

Locus 1

Locus 1 consisted of three excavation units, placed to sample the west half of the yard based on magnetic and radar anomalies from the geophysical survey. The west yard was relatively quiet geophysically, in comparison to the eastern portion. Testing the west yard assured a comprehensive view of the entire yard and sought to identify archeological components, such as low artifact density areas or auxiliary structures, with minimal magnetic properties.

These three units were excavated in two strata to subsoil encountered at 1.3 to 1.6 feet below surface. No features were discovered in this locus. This locus yielded a low artifact density and consisted primarily of modern window glass. S50/W75 did yield a concentration of aboriginal debitage, mainly quartz primary and secondary decortication flakes. Though low in density, the area did have a representative sample of white salt-glaze stoneware (one sherd was recovered in each unit), lead-glaze earthenwares, one sherd each of Rhenish blue and grey stoneware and tin-glaze earthenware, round bottle glass, English flint, and wrought nails. Though ephemeral in comparison the ceramic concentrations across the reminder of the site, and lacking subsurface features, the area retains the potential for additional investigation as an early colonial component of 18AN1058.

Locus 2

Locus 2 consisted of three units in the southeastern portion of the survey area. S40/E20 revealed a brick-paved surface less than 0.6 feet below grade. The paving (Feature 10) covered more than three-quarters of the unit surface and was a basic stretcher pattern, oriented toward the northeast/southwest axis of the site grid. Though only one unit was excavated, probing and radar results indicate that this paving area continues at least 20 feet in diameter. The paving was not removed, thus a date for the laying of this brick has not been determined.

One-third of a coin was recovered from S40/E20, the location of the brick-paving feature. This partial coin is copper and has no visible marks, although it is the size of the ubiquitous Georgian halfpenny (Luckenbach, personal communication). It has clearly been cut, reflecting the value coinage had during the Colonial and early Republic period. This cut coin supports the fact the coinage was not standardized and was often utilized in irregular ways.

A posthole and mold (Features 16 and 25) were found in S65/E10. The posthole and mold had inclusions of whole shell and brick fragments. No diagnostics were recovered. S80/E30 revealed a crushed oyster surface approximately 0.7 feet below grade and a posthole and mold (Features 12 and 11 respectively) in the northwest quadrant at 0.7 feet below grade. The posthole and mold features were fully excavated to 0.5 feet deep. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered from the posthole. The crushed oyster was relatively uniform across the unit and was 0.25 feet deep, overlying subsoil. Hand-wrought nails, white salt-glaze stoneware, bone, and green bottle glass were recovered from the layer, indicating that this oyster deposit may also be a colonial traffic surface.

This locus provided most of the early historic artifacts recovered from 18AN1058. The presence of incised Rhenish blue and grey stoneware, and white salt-glazed stoneware, implies an early colonial component on this portion of the site.

Locus 3

Loci 3, 4, and 5 are related as they each represent different segments of the late 18th/19th century structure discovered at 18AN1058. Locus 4 encompasses the units over the brick-lined cellar hole (Feature 17). These units consisted of primarily orange clay fill dirt, placed in the 1960s according to the owners of the property. While the cellar hole was built primarily of brick, the southern portion of the upper wall was constructed of large fieldstones, identical to those making up a portion of the foundation wall in Locus 4, discussed below. The clay fill (layer B) extended several feet down with the first artifact rich layer of soil being encountered between 1.9 feet in the south and 3.6 feet in the north. Layer C, a very dark grey silt loam, was 0.4 feet deep. Under this lens of fill was a destruction layer (layer D) containing a mixture of 18th, 19th and 20th century artifacts and brick, mortar, and rubble throughout. Layer D exhibited a relatively steep slope, and was excavated to 2.3 feet below grade in the south and 4.0 feet below grade in the north. The final soil deposit in the cellar hole was a grey silt loam with charcoal inclusions. The deposit contained a late 18th to early 19th century ceramic assemblage, with the latest ceramic being one sherd of a Lustreware pitcher (ca. 1830-40) which provides a *terminus post quem* in the second quarter of the 19th century.

The brick floor of the cellar was uncovered at 5.0 feet below grade and was a simple stretcher pattern, running east to west. The south wall of the cellar exhibited a stepped-back construction, making it likely that this wall was intended to bear a considerable load. The stone foundation at the upper portion of the cellar

wall reinforces this hypothesis, providing a substantial base (approximately 2½ feet wide) for a structure above.

Locus 4

A series of architectural features defined Locus 4. Five excavation units revealed five distinctive features related to the structure at 18AN1058. At the southernmost portion of this locus is a stone foundation wall (Feature 20), running from east to west, parallel to and exactly 20 feet north of the stone foundation wall in Locus 3. The stones are similar in size and color, and the wall has a similar construction appearance. This foundation is clearly a component of the structure that once stood over the cellar hole described above. This stone foundation extends primarily to the east.

Perpendicular to and branching off the west terminus of the stone foundation was a brick foundation wall (Feature 4) two bricks wide (0.7 feet) and exactly ten feet long. These bricks were not removed but appear to be only two to three courses deep, based on probing the soil underneath. A builder's trench (Features 5 and 19) related to Feature 4 was apparent only on the west side of the brick. Perpendicular to this brick wall to the north is a clearly visible robber's trench (Feature 25) that extends out to the east and west from Feature 4. The trench had the highest concentration of clay pipes on site, at nearly 20% of the entire assemblage of tobacco pipes. The next closest concentration was just over 10% in the cellar deposit. Across the site, the highest concentrations were located in Locus 4, suggesting that this area was a heavily used portion of the building complex. The discarding of tobacco pipes might also indicate that this area was not a living surface, but a passageway between entrances of two structures.

A unique artifact was recovered near the builders trench (Feature 5) in unit S25/W5. A Condor token, a contemporary substitute for small denomination coinage, was recovered from Feature 5. The copper token is decorated on both sides with an imprint of the letters "_ANGLES_.". It is probable that the entire inscription was "THE ANGELESLY MINES", an inscription dating to the 1780s (Al Luckenbach, personal communication).

Feature 18 in Locus 4 was a brick-paved surface adjacent to the brick foundation (Feature 4) to the east. The paving runs in a distinct east to west stretcher pattern (different from the paving surface discussed above) and was found intact only 0.5 feet below the surface. Areas of this paving surface to the southeast appear to have been disturbed. The entire surface exposed is approximately 7.5 by 4.7 feet and it is clear from probing and radar results that the paving extends to the east.

Locus 5

Four excavation units in Locus 5 revealed several possible surfaces and a brick footer to a chimney base. Two units to the northeast revealed crushed shell surfaces. Aboriginal debitage and historic artifacts were intermingled in these two units indicating a prehistoric shell midden that has been disturbed and used as an historic surface. In unit N0/W5 (the first unit excavated on site), a corner of a chimney base constructed of brick was documented. This brick chimney base (Feature 1) appears to have been constructed in and on an oyster midden which yielded prehistoric debitage and ceramics. On the interior of the brick, a builders trench (Feature 2) was evident and, upon excavation, yielded wrought nails, bone, phial glass, and several pieces of Rappahannock cord-impressed and incised pottery, including two rim sherds. The paucity of historic artifacts and the absence of any historic ceramics would indicate that this feature was one of the first components of building construction on site. Diagnostic historic ceramics recovered from the four units within this locus did include a few sherds of white salt-glazed stoneware, Rhenish and English brown stonewares, and Chinese porcelain, and hint at an early colonial activity near this structure. Ceramics in this area were predominantly late 18th and early 19th century, including creamwares, pearlwares, American stonewares, ironstone, and yellowware.

Inter-Locus Artifact Analysis

Consideration of several artifact groups revealed interesting patterns across the site. It appears, based upon ceramics and nails recovered, that the site is occupied most intensively from about the 1760s until the 1830s. This evidence clearly indicates that the site was occupied by the second decade of the 18th century, with the most intensive activity occurring between 1760 and the 1830s, as indicated by the preponderance of pearlware recovered. Pipe stem analysis (Harrington 1954) provided a mean date of 1751.3, although other evidence indicates this date to be early.

Pearlwares were by far the dominant ceramic type recovered at 18AN1058. Table 1 lists the ceramic distributions by type, including those ceramics that account for more than 1% of the entire ceramic assemblage. Two things stand out in this chart. First and most obvious is the predominance of pearlwares at 71%. When this number is removed from consideration of the ceramic assemblage, interesting trends

TABLE 1. Ceramic distribution by type.

	% TOTAL CERAMICS (N=1489)	% TOTAL NON-PEARLWARE CERAMICS (N=433)
Pearlwares (1780-1840)	71%	N/A
Lead Glaze Wares	6%	23%
Slipped Redware	3%	13%
Refined Red Ware	3%	11%
Later Porcelain	3%	10%
Chinese Porcelain	3%	10%
White Salt-Glaze	2%	7%
Creamwares	2%	6%
Ironstone	2%	9%
American Blue and Grey	2%	7%
English Brown Stoneware	1%	4%
Post-1840 ceramics[1]	**5%**	**16%**
All Colonial Ceramics[2]	**5%**	**18%**

[1]Includes ironstone, yellowware, American brown, and American blue and grey.
[2]Includes tin-glaze or Delft (1640-1800), Staffordshire slipware (1680-1780), English brown stoneware (1690-1775), Westerwald [Rhenish blue and grey] (1700-1775), white salt-glaze stonewares (1720-1780), and creamware (1760-1820).

TABLE 2. Colonial ceramic distribution by type.

	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL COLONIAL CERAMICS (N=80)
Tin-glazed earthenware or Delft (1640-1780)	9%
Staffordshire slipware (1680-1780)	1%
English brown stoneware (1690-1775)	19%
Sprigg-molded Rhenish blue & grey (1650-1725)	6%
White salt-glazed stoneware (1720-1780)	36%
Creamware (1760-1820)	29%

TABLE 3. Nail distribution by type.

	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL NAILS (N=285.9 OZ.)	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL NAILS WITHOUT WIRE AND INDETERMINATE (N=220.4 OZ.)
Wrought nails (pre-1810)	37%	49%
Cut nails with wrought heads (1790s-1830s)	1.8%	2.3%
Cut nails (1820-1880s)	37%	48%
Wire nails (1880-)	1.5%	N/A

emerge. Note that the next three highest percentages, without the pearlware to skew results, are utilitarian red wares with broad date ranges: lead-glaze wares, slipped redware, and refined redware. Table 2 indicates that of the colonial ceramics (18% of the entire ceramic assemblage), white salt-glaze and creamwares are the predominant types.

Table 3 shows comparable percentages of wrought and cut nails across the site, indicating continued construction and repair/rebuilding throughout the first half of the 19th century. Interestingly, the distribution of these nails, in particular the few cut nails with wrought heads, helps explain the construction sequence, as discussed below.

Colonial Occupation

Archival evidence clearly indicates that Thomas Linthicum built a dwelling on Lot 33 when he acquired the property in 1684. As the property is described through ensuing land transactions, a 100-foot square parcel is held out of property exchanges and maintained by Linthicum's heirs. Based upon the metes and bounds descriptions of Lot 33 and the extracted 100-foot square, it appears from archival evidence that early colonial activity is focused to the south of the survey area, and likely beyond.

The earliest ceramics encountered on the site were recovered from two units, S65/E10 and S80/E30, placed to the southeast corner of the survey area. The presence of Staffordshire slipware, tin-glazed earthenwares, and sprigg-molded Rhenish blue and grey or Westerwald provide strong indication that the site was first occupied as early as the 1690s. The presence of English brown stoneware, white salt-glaze, and creamware show an increased domestic activity on the site throughout the 18th century.

Early Republic Occupation (1790-1840)

Three distinct parts of the building foundations, constructed of brick and stone, have been recorded on the site (Figure 7). The earliest portion of the building was likely constructed in the third quarter of the 18th century. A brick chimney base at the north end and a robbed trench exactly twenty feet to the south provide the north/south dimensions on this portion of the structure. Excavation of the builders' trench on the interior of the chimney base (Feature 2) yielded no historic diagnostics although prehistoric debitage and pottery were recovered within the adjacent oyster mid-

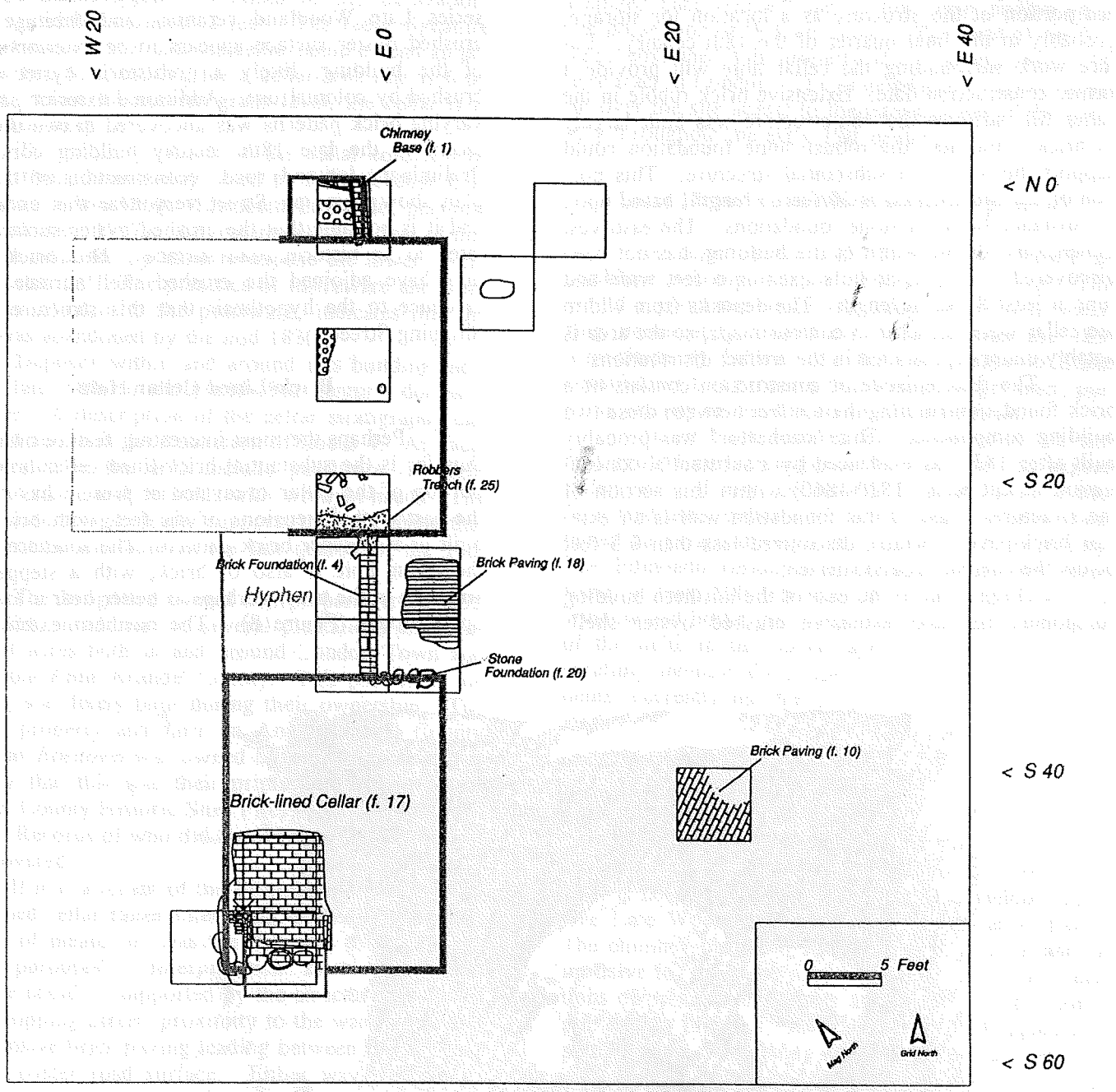

FIGURE 7. Projected structures at 18AN1058 based upon archeological evidence.

den. The robbed trench (Feature 24) yielded early to mid-19th century diagnostics, such as pearlware, yellowware, and ironstone. Geophysical survey has provided information with which we can confidently posit a 20 x 20-foot structure. Artifact concentrations from the upper stratum in this area are decidedly domestic, with a high percentage of pearlwares being recovered. Though a lighter concentration than late 18th and 19th century ceramics, colonial ceramics are represented in this portion of the building, as is a concentration of wrought nails.

The second building episode was to the south, and includes the substantial brick-lined cellar hole with a large stone foundation. This portion of the building

may actually have been built very soon after the northern portion of the structure as a location for storage, probably in the final quarter of the 18th century. Future work surrounding the cellar hole will provide a firmer construction date. Extensive brick rubble in the cellar fill indicates that the structure was built largely of brick. Further, the robust stone foundation could support the load of a substantial structure. This portion of the construction is 20 feet in length, based upon the distance between stone foundations. The east/west dimensions, or the width of the building, has not been discovered. The cellar hole itself is 6 feet wide and runs at least 8 feet in length. The deposits from within the cellar were not used in contour maps, so the area is notably under-represented in the artifact distributions.

The final episode of construction consists of a brick foundation running the ten feet between these two building components. This "connector" was probably built after 1820, as evidenced by a substantial concentration of cut nails (1820-1860) within this section of the structure. East of this foundation wall is an exterior brick-paved surface, discovered less than 0.5 feet below the current ground surface.

Three units to the east of the northern building component revealed extensive crushed oyster shell, with a mix of historic and, in deeper strata, Townsend series Late Woodland ceramics and debitage. The crushed oyster surface appears to be exterior surfaces of the building, likely a prehistoric oyster midden crushed by colonial use. Additional exterior paving of varying brick patterns was uncovered in two units, adjacent to the late 18th century building component. Preliminary lot and road reconstruction of the town plan show Shipping Street very near this excavation, and it is possible that the crushed oyster surface is related to an historic road surface. This brick paving may have adjoined the crushed shell surface lending credence to the hypothesis that this structure fronted Shipping Street.

Brick-Lined Cellar Hole

Perhaps the most interesting feature on this site thus far is the substantial brick-lined cellar hole. The portion of the cellar excavated at present has revealed the east/west dimensions of six feet, with brick walls built in a stretcher brick pattern. The southern wall of the cellar hole is also of brick, with a stepped construction at the base, perhaps to better bear a load from upper floors (Figure 8). The northern extent of the

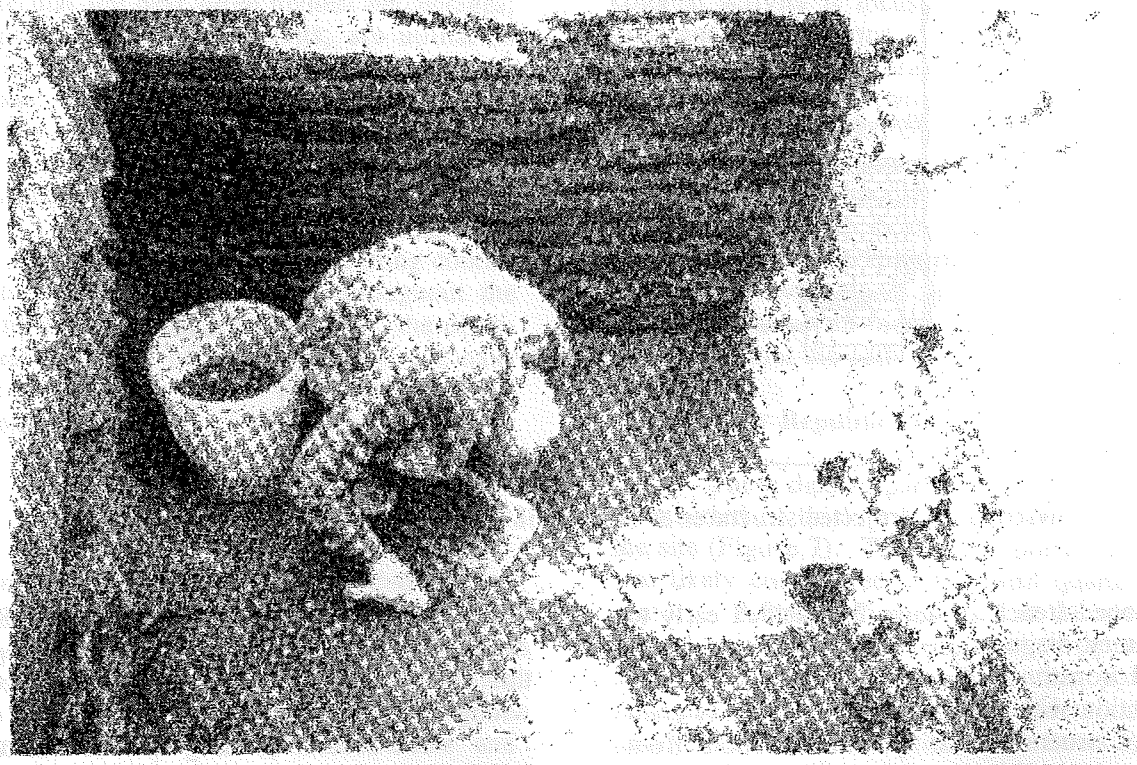

FIGURE 8. Feature 17 under excavation by Carolyn Gryzkowski, showing brick pattern on the southern wall.

cellar extends beyond the limits of the excavation, which currently measures 8 feet. The radar signature of this area indicates that the cellar could extend an additional two feet, making for a cellar hole that is 6 by 10 feet. From the current grade level, the cellar is at least 5 feet deep.

The majority of soil in the cellar consisted of heavy, strong brown clay, used to fill the cellar hole depression in the 1960s (Elizabeth Edmondo, personal communication 1997). Approximately four feet of this clay was removed by hand to expose the lower layers of the cellar fill. The presence of lustreware and ironstone, in addition to the pearlware, indicates that the cellar was abandoned by the mid-1830s.

Deposits within and around this building indicate a late 18th to early/mid-19th century domestic structure. A description of the cellar stratigraphy can be found above in the discussion of Locus 4. Artifacts concentrated in the area include pearlware, wrought nails, cut nails, and cut nails with wrought heads. The artifact assemblage clearly supports the conclusion that this structure was built in the last quarter of the 18th century.

The Brogden's owned this property from 1795 until 1824, in addition to several plantations and hundreds of acres both in and around London Town and throughout Anne Arundel County. This portion of the building was likely built during their ownership. The historic property and farm in Anne Arundel County known as *Roedown* was owned by the Brogdens and it is likely that this was their primary residence (Anne Arundel County Historic Sites Files, courtesy of Donna Ware). Records of who did live on this site have yet to be discovered.

If it is a tenant of the Brogdens, the substantial brick-lined cellar raises interesting questions. Was the resident of means, or was the structure used for mercantile purposes? Interpretation as a commercial structure could be supported by the structure's proximity to Shipping Street, proximity to the waterfront, and the extensive brick paving leading between the building and the oyster road surface. Either way, records of their activities likely exist, warranting additional research.

Samuel Harrison purchased this property from the Brogdens in 1824. As is proposed above, the two structures were connected soon after 1820, perhaps after being acquired by Mr. Harrison. Demolition debris overlying intact floor deposits indicates the cellar was abandoned by the mid-1830s. Again, the archival information provides an interesting coincidence. Samuel Harrison's interest in the property was sold at public sale to the highest bidder in 1833. The property changed hands three times in that year, ending up in the possession of William Stuart. The deed of April 1, 1833 combined this property into a much larger 114-acre tract in London. The preponderance of pearlwares all over the site attests to the intensive use of the property throughout the early 19th century.

Later Historic and Modern (1840 - present)

As noted above, only 17% of the ceramic assemblage is composed post-1840 ceramic types. This would support the notion that little activity was occurring immediately around the structure after the 1833 acquisition by Stuart. As the conveyance to Stuart consolidates this property into a much larger tract, pursuing activity on the site archivally is difficult.

Intact brick features within inches of the current ground surface suggests the property has experienced little, if any, cultivation since its historic use. Oral traditions indicate the bluff area has been maintained as a yard throughout most of the 20th century. The Edmondo residence is set back from the waterfront, at least 500 feet from the bluff edge. Modern window and bottle glass was recovered from almost all of the units in the upper layers. The owners, who carefully monitor the property's archeological components, currently use the property for low level recreation.

Prehistoric

An interesting aspect of this site is the prehistoric component. The above-mentioned crushed oyster shell is not only an historic surface, but yielded extensive Late Woodland pottery and decortication flakes. The chimney base also seems to be built upon and, is intrusive to, the same oyster midden. Two concentrations of prehistoric artifacts are evident. In the northern oyster middens, several pieces of Rappahanock pottery (Late Woodland) were identified, as well as a collection of quartz and chert flakes and fire-cracked rocks. This midden is on the edge of the bluff overlooking the South River. This would be an ideal location for an oyster midden, though the amount of erosion on the steep bluff is not known. The current owners claim that the hillside has been fairly consistent in their lifetimes and shoreline analysis from maps back to 1847 indicate that this bluff has not seen much erosion (Anne Arundel County Mapping Division). The westernmost prehistoric concentration in S50/W75 consisted primarily of quartz flakes. The prehistoric component of this site could be further explored by placing

units between the two concentrations to determine if this is a contiguous site or if each is discrete.

Results and Conclusions

The limited investigations conducted at 18AN1058 thus far have revealed over 500 years of occupation and use. The picturesque setting, overlooking the South River and cooled by the river breezes, makes this an ideal spot for habitation, not to mention an ideal place to conduct archeological investigations!

Based upon our current understanding, the earliest historic component of this site is a domestic structure built in the 1680s when this London Town lot was first taken up. Current investigations indicate that the central portion of this colonial component of the site is further to the southeast and west of the investigated area. The later historic occupation on colonial Lot 33 is represented by a complex domestic structure which was built in three phases. The first building may have been constructed as early as the 1760s, with the second component being constructed during the 1790s. The addition which connected these two components was constructed in the 1820s. The entire building complex was abandoned, if not demolished, by the mid-1830s. Though representative ceramics from the later 19th century were recovered, little activity is apparent from the later historic periods. The current owners have shared much of the property's 20th century uses.

The numerous brick features on this site hold the answers to many questions. Removing and excavating beneath the brick features could provide firm dates to better explain the construction development. Additional 5 by 5-foot units should be excavated to further explore the east/west dimensions of the brick foundations. To better understand the entire lot development, excavations toward the anticipated 17th century component of the site should be undertaken. Further investigations might also provide firm archeological evidence of the location of Shipping Street, which will assist the refinement of London Town's layout and plan.

Further consideration of this site will contribute to the larger questions being asked at London Town. This colonial port has traditionally been interpreted as being eclipsed by Annapolis and Baltimore after the Revolutionary War. The once-significant port fell from grace and gradually reverted to agricultural use. Recent archival research has begun to question this process by which the town became "lost" to the 20th century. Archeological evidence, as presented above, reveals a site that saw significant development after London Town's peak. Future consideration of the post-town evolution, which takes us through the Revolutionary War and beyond, will enrich our understanding of the transformation from a colonial town to a young nation.

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